

COUNTRY	Germany (Soviet Zone)	REPORT	
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REMARKS	<div style="text-align: center;">RETURN TO CIA LIBRARY</div>		

1. In early February 1952, the cadre unit of the officers' school in the Mindenburg Kaserne, Wunsdorf (N 53/Z 91), consisted of the following personnel: 1 general, 1 colonel and a Lieutenant Colonel Boledchev (phonetically spelled) (fnu), as board of instructors; a Koch Major Famyenko (phonetically spelled) (fnu); a Major Kaslov (phonetically spelled) (fnu), as supply officer; 1 major and 1 lieutenant as political officers; 1 major as ordnance officer; 1 major and 1 lieutenant as technical officers; 1 major as administrative officer; 1 major and 1 captain as mess officers; 1 lieutenant as signal officer; fatigue details, maintenance details and guard details totaling 120 soldiers, with 80 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and 40, black-bordered red epaulets; 4 uniformed women wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia as typists and telephone operators; and 80 uniformed women with black-bordered red epaulets as charwomen and kitchen hands. The equipment of the unit included: 3 T-34/85 tanks; and unknown number of mortars and heavy machine guns; cut-away models of tanks, breechblocks, shells, tank and motor vehicle engines; 6 complete tank engines with mufflers for presentation in classrooms; 2 sedans for the general and the political officers; and 4 trucks. Military personnel detached to the officer's school included: 40 officers, from lieutenant up to, and including major, as instructors; 40 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets who serviced the weapons detached to the officers' school by troop units; 500 officer candidates and about 700 officers, from junior lieutenant up to, and including captain, as students. (1)
2. On 13 February, trucks each towing a 76.2-mm gun and carrying eight soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets, were observed leaving the Mindenburg Kaserne. T-34/85 tanks, T-34/85 4 model 1942 76.2-mm guns and 7 x 160-mm mortars were seen in front of the garages. On 20 February, troops in the barracks yard in front of the headquarters building probably practicing for a parade, on 23 February included columns of about 500 officers, about 500 officer candidates, about 100 LT, about 60 uniformed Soviet women, and a band. On 19 February, about 100 officers, majors and colonels, arrived by rail or motor to attend a course which was a special course. Trucks towing 76.2-mm field guns and truck with a 160-mm mortar were seen in the installation on 4 March.
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high-echelon headquarters was billeted in buildings Nos 86, 90, 94 and 94a and a large tank and motor vehicle repair shop was to be installed in the former Panzertruppenschule. [redacted] the railroad spur track under construction there would go to the repair shop. There was rumor that the headquarters would move again in early May. Sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia were seen in front of buildings Nos 86 and 94a. The number of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia was rather small. There were numerous uniformed Russian women. Two field trunk wires were leading from Building No 86 to a motorized radio station at the Mindenburg Kaserne.

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4. Prior to 23 February, there was no change in the occupation of the former Panzertruppenschule which still quartered 4,000 to 4,800 troops and 200 to 300 Soviet women. Source observed instruction on tanks, close-order drill and maintenance work on motor vehicles. On 23 February, a column of 310 to 360 officers left the installation and marched toward the Lutz Kaserne. There were apparently no officers in the Panzertruppenschule afterwards. About 10 T-34 tanks were seen in hall No 56 on 16 February. Some of the tanks were disassembled, probably for overhauling. Between 14 and 15 February, the Panzertruppenschule was visited by a general wearing tank insignia who rode in sedan [redacted]. The general inspected the installation but did not review the troops. Five AT gun emplacements were built in the northern section of the barracks installation. Excavating work done there was possibly for an underground fuel dump. [redacted]
- [redacted] (3) A diagram of a rifle rack, made by Unit [redacted] on 15 January 1952, was obtained in hall No 48 at the Panzertruppenschule on 6 February. (4)

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5. Prior to 1 March, Camp Zossen was occupied by 3,200 to 3,800 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets mostly with motor transport insignia. Only two soldiers wore signal insignia. About half of the buildings were lighted at dusk. No training activity or heavy weapons were seen. On 23 February, a group consisting of a 16-men military band, 30 to 35 officers and 200 EM, all wearing red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia, returned from a ceremony. [redacted]

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6. At about 10 a.m. on 28 February, three columns of trucks, each truck carrying 2 or 3 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with motor transport insignia, passed in short intervals toward Trebin through Naechst-Neuendorf. The first column consisted of 13 trucks [redacted]

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repair-shop truck [] and sedan [] occupied by officers. The third column consisted of 12 or 13 trucks. []

7. On 29 February, a column of 5 trucks towing 4 artillery pieces came from the direction of Saalow and drove through Naechst-Neuendorf toward Trebbin. Each truck carried 10 to 14 soldiers; [] The column was seen returning after one hour. (7)

8. About 50 empty trucks [] were observed leaving the Cambrai Kaserne in Muensdorf and driving toward Zossen on 29 February. (6)

9. At about 5 p.m. from 10 to 15 February, a column of 70 to 80 trucks was daily observed leaving the Cambrai Kaserne and returning during the night. They usually drove toward Baruth.

10. Engine spare parts were unloaded from 4 cars on 4 February and from 5 cars on 14 February at the Muensdorf railroad station. (4)

11. Firing practice with live ammunition was performed by AA guns on 14 February. They also fired from an emplacement north of the Panzertruppenschule. About 20 shells were fired from each emplacement. The ammunition was brought on trucks []

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[] Model BA-G4 armored scout cars [] followed by sedan [] were seen leaving the Lutz Kaserne on the same day. From the traffic observed, source concluded that a high-echelon headquarters was billeted in the Panzertruppenschule. More intensive security measures were employed. Vehicles had to be parked just east of the intersection Zehrendorfstrasse road to Zossen. []

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12. An interpreter [redacted] confirmed the transfer to Wuensdorf of this repair shop. He said that the quarters in Kummersdorf would be occupied by German Volkspolizei. (4)

13. Prior to 22 February, the Lutz Kaserne was occupied by artillery units, including those which allegedly came from Kummersdorf. There was almost no training. About 150 officers and men on trucks [redacted] were transported from the railroad station to the Lutz Kaserne on 22 February. [redacted]

14. On 20 February, the Panzertruppenschule was apparently occupied to capacity. Guards wore red-bordered black epaulets without branch-of-service insignia. As many officers entered and left the installation, source concluded that a high echelon headquarters was located there. About 150 German workmen were occupied at the repair shop in the Panzertruppenschule. [redacted]

15. On 19 February, the Cambrai Kaserne was occupied to capacity. Guards wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. No training activity was observed, [redacted]

Comments.

(1) The information on the officers' school of the GOFG in the Hindenburg Kaserne supplements previous reports on the personnel stationed there. [redacted]

(2) The buildings numbers in the present report were given in a sketch submitted previously. [redacted]

(3) The Hq Third Gds Mecz Army is confirmed by four sources as located in the billeting section around building No 94a during February 1952. According to the observation [redacted] building No 86 probably belongs to the headquarters. [redacted]

(4) The reports on the tank repair shop near Hall No 56 in the Panzertruppenschule mentioned in paragraphs 3, 4 and 10 confirm the previous assumption. [redacted]

(5) The reports on Camp Zossen and the former German Kommandantur contain no new information. [redacted]

(7) [redacted] a battery of the 197th Light Art. Brig from the Kummersdorf area.

(8) Headquarters units of the Third Gds Mecz Army are believed to be stationed in the Lutz Kaserne. There is no information indicating that artillery units should have moved from Kummersdorf to Wuensdorf. The new arrivals probably belong to the officers' school at the Hindenburg Kaserne, with about 150 students permanently quartered in the Lutz Kaserne as was indicated in another report [redacted]

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